



¶ By the King.

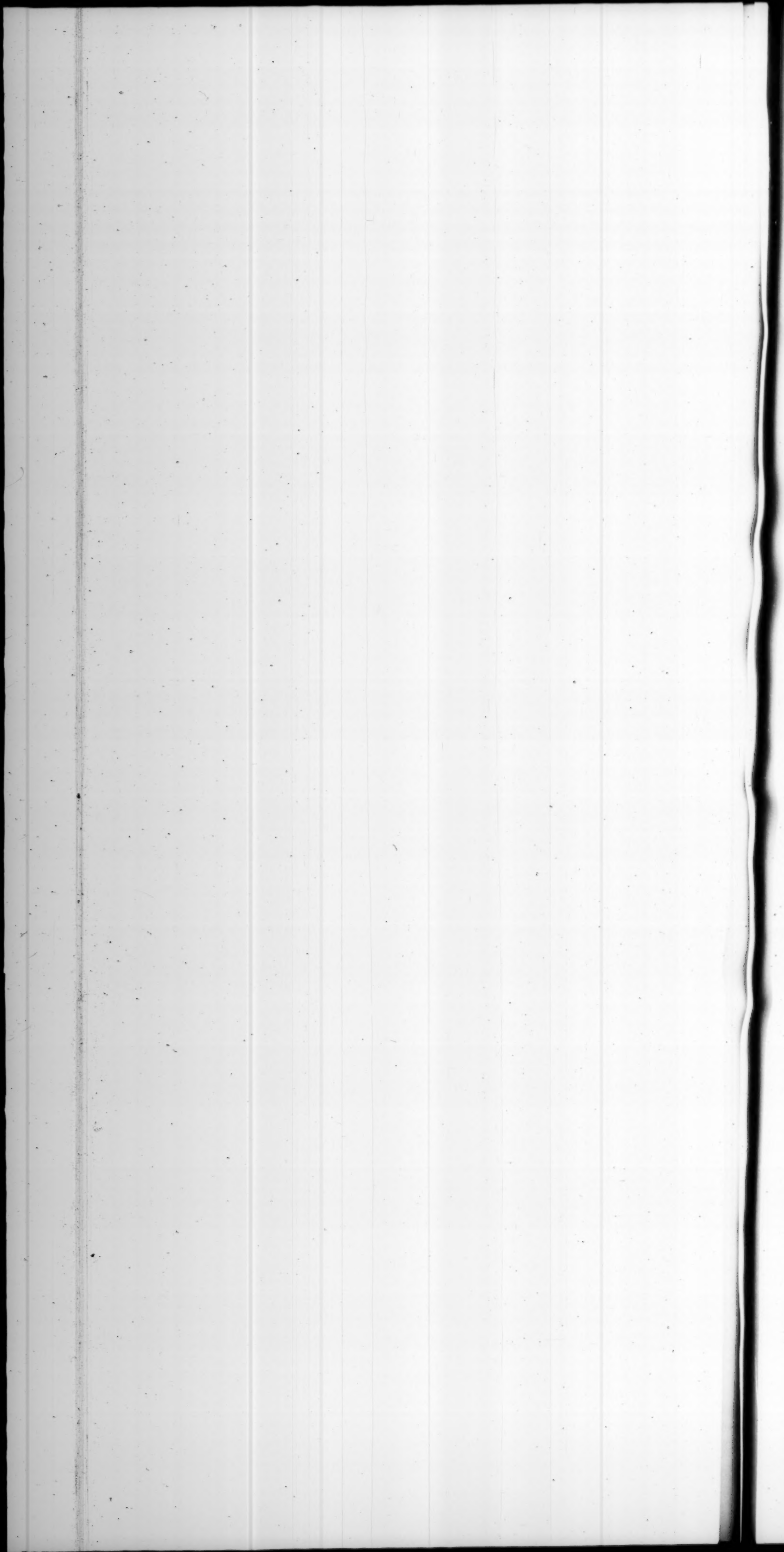
¶ A Proclamation concerning the Tradesmen and

Artificers within three miles of the Citie of London, not yet admitted into the new Corporation.



Hereas upon the earnest and frequent complaints of Our loving Subjects, the Inhabitants of the places aswel within Our City of London, exempt from the freedome thereof, as without our said City, & within thre miles of the same, of the great grievances by them sustained through the intrusion of Aliens and Forreyners into those places, and by the ungoverned exercise of Trade there: we by Our Letters Patents under Our great Seal of England, bearing date the second day of June, in the twelfth year of Our Reigne, did incorporate such Tradesmen and Artificers, then inhabiting the same places, as had served Apprentiships for the space of seven years, into a body corporate and politique, and did erect a settled government for restraint of such intruders, and for the regulating and more orderly disposing of Trade and Tradesmen there for time to come. And afterwards by Our Proclamation bearing date the four and twentieth day of February, in the said twelfth year of Our Reign, we did publish the premisses to all Our loving Subjects, thereby also declaring Our will and pleasure to be, that no person or persons whatsoever, should after the Feast of All Saints then next ensuing, use or exercise any Trade, Mystery, Craft, Occupation, or trading by retail within the places aforesaid, unlesse he or they were admitted into the freedome of the said Corporation, upon pain of Our indignation, and such further punishment, as we by Our Lawes and the Statutes of this Our Realm, or by Our prerogative Royall might inflict upon the contemners of Our Royall Will and pleasure.

According to which our Letters Patents and Proclamation so made and published as aforesaid, we did resolve in all respects to have proceeded, intending not onely to have excluded from the benefit of the said freedome, and from the exercise of Trade within the places aforesaid, all capable persons refusing to be admitted within the time aforesaid, as neglecters of our gracious labours so freely offered unto them, but also to have proceeded against them according to our Lawes with all severity, as contemners of our Royal commands so declared as aforesaid.



But now forasmuch as we are given to understand that (partly by reason of the sicknesse and infection wherewith the aforesaid places have been much visited, and partly through the delay of some of the said Tradesmen and Artificers, who, out of a misunderstanding of Our Royall intentions, did for a time put off their admittance into the said Freedome) many of the said Tradesmen and Artificers were hindered, and others discouraged from coming in to be made free. Nevertheless, when the time limited by Our said former Proclamation was almost expired, the multitude of those that came to receive their Freedome was so great, that the Governour, Wardens, Chamberlains and Assistants of the said Corporation, for fear of admitting such as were incapable thereof, to the prejudice of the said Corporation, were enforced to desist from further proceeding in the said service: And by means of the premises, many of the said Tradesmen and Artificers remain as yet not admitted into the said Freedome.

We taking the premises into Our serious consideration, have thought meet rather to give a further time for the admittance of such Tradesmen and Artificers, as being capable of the said Freedome, have not yet taken the same, then to exclude such of them not yet admitted, whose coming in hath been retarded by the means aforesaid: And therefore Our Will and pleasure is, and we do hereby declare, That the Governour, Wardens, Chamberlains, and Assistants of the said Corporation, shall and may proceed without delay to admit into the said Freedome all sorts of Tradesmen and Artificers whatsoever, as well Brewers, Weavers, and Brickmakers, as others, who by the true intent of Our said Charter and Proclamation are capable thereof: yet so, as none be admitted into the said Corporation, who have intruded into the said places since the date of Our aforesaid Proclamation.

And we do hereby further declare Our Will and pleasure to be, That all Our loving Subjects, as well Brewers, Weavers, and Brickmakers, as other Tradesmen, and Artificers whatsoever capable of the said Freedome, and not yet admitted, shall forthwith come in and take their said Freedome: So as they may all be admitted before the Feast of the Purification of the blessed virgin Mary, next coming, to the end the Governour, Wardens, Chamberlains, and Assistants, may after the said Feast the better attend the expelling and keeping out of Forreiners and Aliens, and the regulating and ordering of the said Corporation and members of the same, according to the trust we have reposed in them.

Given at Our Palace at Westminster, the two and twentieth day of November, in the thirteenth year of Our Reign. 1637.

✠ God save the King.

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to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the  
Assignes of JOHN BILL. 1637.

